



MONTANA



MONTANA CENTRAL TUMOR REGISTRY

Year Funded	Type of Program	Affiliation	Compliance with Public Law 102-515: Legislation and Regulations [*]	
			Authorizing legislation for a statewide registry: Yes	Regulations in place for data reporting, confidentiality, and use: All
1994	Enhancement	State Health Department		

^{*}Source: NPCR Legislative Database, January 2001.

Cancer Burden

Cancer is a devastating disease. According to the American Cancer Society, in 2001 an estimated 553,400 Americans will die of cancer, and approximately 1.3 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed. These estimates do not include in situ (preinvasive) cancer of any site except urinary bladder or approximately 1 million cases of nonmelanoma skin cancer to be diagnosed this year. In Montana, an estimated 4,300 new cancer cases will be diagnosed, and approximately 1,900 will die of this disease in 2001. Montana ranks 39th highest overall in cancer mortality rates among the 50 states and Washington, D.C.*

The NPCR

Cancer surveillance involves the systematic collection, analysis, and use of cancer data. Information derived through surveillance is critical for directing effective cancer prevention and control programs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's **National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR)**, authorized by Congress in 1992 through the Cancer Registries Amendment Act (Public Law 102-515), serves as the foundation of a national, comprehensive cancer control strategy. Statewide cancer registries provide critical data to help identify and monitor trends in cancer incidence and mortality over time; guide cancer control planning and evaluation; help

allocate health resources; and advance clinical, epidemiologic, and health services research.

Through the NPCR, CDC supports registries in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and three territories, representing 96% of the U.S. population.[†] Forty-five programs receive support to enhance existing registries; these have on-going cancer data-collection activities, policies and procedures for central registry operations in place, and core staff employed. Four programs receive support to plan and develop new registries; they are typically involved in laying the necessary groundwork for establishing a central, population-based registry.

With fiscal year 2001 appropriations of approximately \$36 million, CDC continues to support and enhance state cancer registries, and promotes appropriate uses of data. The CDC will also develop special research projects, such as studies of patterns of cancer care in specific populations and assessments of data for integration with geographic information systems.

State Highlights

- The Montana Central Tumor Registry (MCTR) was certified by the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries for completeness, timeliness, and quality of its 1997 data.

- Treatment of Early Stage Breast Cancer in Montana, 1994-1995: The MCTR, the Mountain Pacific Quality Health Foundation, and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Chronic Disease Epidemiology Program collaborated to assess cancer treatment patterns and, to the extent opportunities to improve care are identified, to work with physicians and others to improve care for cancer patients. The project team found that cases who were residents of rural counties were much less likely to receive radiation treatment following breast conserving surgery (BCS) than were cases who were residents of urban counties. The project team also found that cases who were residents in a county where a treatment center existed were more likely to receive radiation therapy after BCS than were cases who were resident of counties adjacent to treatment centers.
- Cancer Cluster Study at Fort Peck Indian Reservation: The MCTR and the Fort Peck Indian Health Service are collaborating to ascertain whether the cancer incidence rate in this northeast Montana reservation is normal. The tribal health director is concerned that the incidence rate may be higher than normal.

Continued

^{*}Source: CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, vital statistics data, underlying cause of death, 1993-1997.

[†]A map of the participating NPCR programs can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/npcr/statecon.htm>.

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